

Serial No. 10/679,820

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph beginning on page 4, at line 26, with the following amended paragraph:

An exemplary air intake duct for a gas compressor such as the first section of a gas turbine has a horizontal portion 10 nearer the air inlet and a more or less vertical portion 11 leading down to the bell mouth 12 of the compressor inlet. The gas turbine has a compressor section 13 connected to a turbine section 14 by a shaft 16. Where the gas turbine is used in a power plant, for example, the shaft continues through an inlet cone 17 in the air duct to a generator (not shown). There are also configurations of a compressor without an inlet cone, and other aspects of the suction drain system remain applicable.

Please replace paragraph beginning on page 9, at line 16, with the following amended paragraph:

Alternatively, the cone, or at least a downstream portion of its surface, is made of a porous metal. Suction is applied within the cone to suck water through the pores of the cone surface. Perforations in the wall of a conventional cone can also be used, with a small suction manifold inside the cone opposite the holes for drawing water through the wall into the cone.

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See perforations 17a. Using perforations or porous metal for drawing water to the interior of the cone is desirable since the ring on the outside may unduly interfere with smooth air flow. The cone is an important location for a suction drain since water does not drain from the cone by gravity and is likely to be ingested into the compressor.

Please add the following new paragraph on page 13, after paragraph ending at line 18.

In the above description it will be understood that the drain may comprise a dam around at least a portion of the cone; that only a downstream portion of the inlet cone may be porous or perforated; and that at least a portion of the floor of the duct may be shielded with a perforated sheet or screen.